

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 529

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Don Elsea upon being named the 2011 National AAU Folkstyle Referee of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly salute those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Don Elsea, who was recently named the 2011 National Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Folkstyle Referee of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Elsea is an astute and dedicated community leader who has earned the respect of his peers and the athletes he serves for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a longtime Chattanooga-area wrestling official, Don was selected to receive this award by the National AAU Wrestling Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, he will receive the award this summer at the ESPN Disney Duals in Orlando, Florida; and

WHEREAS, now in his thirty-ninth year as a high school official, Don has officiated twenty-six TSSAA state tournaments and twenty-five national tournaments, including the Disney Duals, Spring Youth Nationals, National Elementary Duals, Super 32, Ironman, and High School Nationals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Elsea, who was a wrestler for Red Bank High School and placed third in the state in 1970, was inducted into the Tennessee Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2008; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his profession, Don serves with acumen and alacrity as the Finance Chairman and head official for Team Tennessee AAU, as the Finance Chairman for Southeastern AAU; he started the Red Bank Kids Club wrestling program in 1970 and, in 2008,

he started the training program for AAU officials in areas of the state that are deficient in state association officials; and

WHEREAS, the greater Chattanooga area and the State of Tennessee are undoubtedly better places to live because of the life and service of Don Elsea; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Mr. Elsea who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Don Elsea for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute officiating abilities in the time-honored sport of wrestling; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Don Elsea upon being named the 2011 National AAU Folkstyle Referee of the Year, commend his outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and community spirit, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.